
DRAFT Biological Resources

County of San Diego

Guidelines for Determining Significance

Adopted
Month____Day____Year____

Circulated for Public Review:
August 4 - 24, 2006

I hereby certify that these **Guidelines for Determining Significance for Biological Resources** are a part of the County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance and were considered by the Director of Planning and Land Use, in coordination with the Director of Public Works on the _____ day of _____, 2006.

GARY PRYOR, Director of Planning and Land Use

JOHN SNYDER, Director of Public Works

Attest: ERIC GIBSON, Deputy Director

I hereby certify that these **Guidelines for Determining Significance for Biological Resources** are a part of the County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance and were adopted by the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (DCAO) of the Land Use and Environment Group on the _____ day of _____ 2006. The Director of Planning and Land Use is authorized to adopt revisions to these Guidelines for Determining Significance for Biological Resources, provided that any revisions to Chapter 4.0 must be approved by the Deputy CAO.

Adopted _____ 2006

CHANDRA WALLAR, Deputy CAO

Attest: _____

_____, Secretary

EXPLANATION

The County of San Diego Guidelines for Determining Significance and information presented herein shall be used by County staff for the review of discretionary projects and environmental documents pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). These Guidelines present a range of quantitative, qualitative, and performance levels for particular environmental effects. Normally, (in the absence of substantial evidence to the contrary), non-compliance with a particular standard stated in these Guidelines will mean the project will result in a significant effect, whereas compliance will normally mean the effect will be determined to be “less than significant.” Section 15064(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines states:

“The determination whether a project may have a significant effect on the environment calls for careful judgment on the part of the public agency involved, based to the extent possible on factual and scientific data. An ironclad definition of significant effect is not always possible because the significance of an activity may vary with the setting.”

These Guidelines shall assist in providing a consistent, objective and predictable evaluation of significant effects. These Guidelines are not binding on any decision-maker and should not be substituted for the use of independent judgment to determine significance or the evaluation of evidence in the record. The County reserves the right to modify these Guidelines in the event of scientific discovery or alterations in factual data that may alter the common application of a Guideline.

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List of Acronyms

ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers
BMO	Biological Mitigation Ordinance
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CSS	Coastal Sage Scrub
DPLU	Department of Planning and Land Use
DPR	Department of Parks and Recreation
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FMP	Framework Management Plan
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HLP	Habitat Loss Permit
HMP	Habitat Management Plan
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MSCP	Multiple Species Conservation Program
NCCP	Natural Communities Conservation Plan
RCA	Resource Conservation Areas
RPO	County of San Diego Resource Protection Ordinance
SAMP	Special Area Management Plan
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USC	United States Code

INTRODUCTION

This document provides guidance for evaluating adverse environmental effects that a proposed project may have on biological resources. Specifically, this document addresses the following questions listed in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Appendix G, IV. Biological Resources and IX. Land Use and Planning:

IV. Biological Resources - Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption or other means?
- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?
- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?
- f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?

IX. Land Use and Planning – Would the project:

- c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

1.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND EXISTING CONDITIONS

San Diego County has long been known as a unique environment for biological resources. Both the number and diversity of the habitats and species present in the County far exceeds that of most other counties in the United States. Several factors are responsible for this unique biological environment, including climate, geology, topography, microhabitats, and endemism.

The loss of native habitat to development and agricultural uses over the last several decades has caused many of the region's biological resources to become increasingly rare. Many habitat types now occupy less than 5-10% of their historical range. The majority of habitat loss has occurred along the coast and inland mesas. Hence, most of the habitat types that have experienced the greatest losses and are now considered the most sensitive are found within these areas, such as southern maritime chaparral, vernal pools, coastal dunes, maritime succulent scrub and freshwater habitats. Other habitat types, such as coastal sage scrub, grasslands, oak woodlands and various chaparral habitats are becoming more sensitive as residential development extends further into previously rural areas in the north and along the eastern foothills of the County.

The far eastern parts of the County, from the mountain areas to the desert regions, have been left relatively intact thus far and may remain so given that large portions of these areas are publicly owned. However, some habitat types in these areas, such as coniferous forest, Colorado desert wash scrub and desert sink scrub, are still considered sensitive for reasons other than historical loss, such as limited distribution, the potential to host sensitive species, or the inability to recover from disturbance.

Today San Diego supports over 400 sensitive plants and wildlife. These species range from uncommon to critically endangered. Some of these species require immediate, proactive measures, particularly those that are already listed as threatened or endangered. For others, extirpation or extinction is not quite so imminent, but their long-term survival may depend upon the precautionary actions taken now, including ensuring that a sufficient amount of native habitat is preserved in a viable manner. Refer to Tables 2 and 3 for lists of County-sensitive plants and wildlife.

Most of the County's conservation policies focus on preservation at the ecosystem and habitat level. The single species approach is only used for particularly sensitive species or those species with unusual life history needs. In all cases, any single-species methods are used in conjunction with the habitat or ecosystem-level approach. The County of San Diego has established policies that aim to balance the needs of humans with the need to protect biological resources. The County's policies have been designed to maintain the optimal health and viability of each ecosystem and habitat given the existing and potential environmental conditions and constraints.

2.0 EXISTING REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

Several Federal, State and local regulations have been established to protect and conserve biological resources. The descriptions below provide a brief overview of the most appropriate regulations and their respective requirements.

2.1 Federal Regulations and Standards

Federal Endangered Species Act [U.S.C Title 16, Chapter 35, Sections 1531-1544, <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/16/ch35.html>]

Enacted in 1973, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) provides for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and their ecosystems. The Act prohibits the “take” of threatened and endangered species except under certain circumstances and only with authorization from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) through a permit under Section 4(d), 7 or 10(a) of the Act. Under the Endangered Species Act, “take” is defined as to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act [U.S.C Title 16, Chapter 7, Subchapter II, Sections 703-712, <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/16/ch7schII.html>]

Congress passed the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) in 1918 to prohibit the kill or transport of native migratory birds, or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird unless allowed by another regulation adopted in accordance with the MBTA. The prohibition applies to birds included in the respective international conventions between the U.S. and Great Britain, the U.S. and Mexico, the U.S. and Japan, and the U.S. and Russia.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act [U.S.C Title 16, Chapter 5A, Subchapter II, Sections 668 a-d, http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode16/usc_sup_01_16_10_5A_20_II.html]

When first enacted in 1940, the Act prohibited the take, transport or sale of bald eagles, their eggs or any part of an eagle except where expressly allowed by the Secretary of Interior. The Act was amended in 1962 to extend the prohibitions to the golden eagle.

Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), 1972 [U.S.C Title 33, Ch.26, Sub-Ch.I-VI., <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/33/ch26.html>]

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act was first passed by Congress in 1948. The Act was later amended and became known as the Clean Water Act. The Act establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States. It gives the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority to implement pollution control programs, including setting wastewater standards for industry and water quality standards for contaminants in surface waters. The Act makes it unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant from a point source into navigable waters, without a permit under its provisions. Clean Water Act 404 permits are issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for dredge/fill activities within wetlands or non-wetland waters of the U.S. Clean Water Act 401 certifications are issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board for activities requiring a federal permit or license which may result in discharge of pollutants into waters of the U.S.

2.2 State Regulations and Standards

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) [Public Resources Code 21000-21178; California Code of Regulations, Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA, Appendix G, Title 14, Chapter 3, §15000-15387. http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines/]

The California Environmental Quality Act requires that biological resources be considered when assessing the environmental impacts resulting from proposed actions. CEQA does not specifically define what constitutes an “adverse effect” on a biological resource. Instead, lead agencies are charged with determining what specifically should be considered an impact.

California Fish and Game Code [<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov>]

The California Fish and Game (CFG) Code regulates the taking or possession of birds, mammals, fish, amphibia and reptiles, as well as natural resources such as wetlands and waters of the state. It includes the California Endangered Species Act (CESA; Sections 2050-2115) and Streambed Alteration Agreement regulations (Section 1602), as well as provisions for legal hunting and fishing, and tribal agreements for activities involving take of native wildlife.

California Endangered Species Act [California Fish and Game Code, Division 3, Chapter 1.5, Sections 2050-2115: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov>]

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) generally parallels the main provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and is administered by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). The CESA prohibits take of any species that the California Fish and Game Commission determines to be a threatened or endangered species. CESA allows for take incidental to otherwise lawful development projects upon approval from CDFG. Under the California Fish and Game Code, “take” is defined as to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act [California Water Code, Division 7, Sections 13000-14958 <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov>]

This Act provides for statewide coordination of water quality regulations. The Act established the California State Water Resources Control Board as the statewide authority and nine separate Regional Water Quality Control Boards to oversee water quality on a day-to-day basis at the regional/local level.

2.3 Local Regulations and Standards

San Diego County General Plan – Open Space Element (Part I), Conservation Element (Part X), and Community and Subregional Plans [<http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/cnty/cntydepts/landuse/planning/zoning/>]

The Open Space Element and the Conservation Element of the General Plan provide guiding principles for the conservation of biological resources. The Open Space Element outlines the goals and policies pertaining to each type of open space, not all of which are for the preservation of biological resources. The Conservation Element,

specifically Chapters 3 and 4 address County policies relating to water, vegetation and wildlife habitat. Appendix K of the Conservation Element outlines the County's Resource Conservation Areas (RCA), which are further described and delineated in each of the Community and Subregional Plans. Each RCA has been designated as such for a purpose specific to that area. When a site is located within a mapped RCA, the project must comply with the relevant policies for that RCA (i.e., avoidance of oaks, etc.).

County of San Diego Zoning Ordinance [<http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/cnty/cntydepts/landuse/planning/zoning/>]

Land may also have a zoning designation or Special Area Regulation with certain restrictions pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance. For instance, lands may have a zoning designation of S81 Ecological Resource Area Regulations. The few uses allowed on lands with this designation are subject to strict provisions and limitations. The Zoning Ordinance also applies other Special Area Regulations with specific restrictions and provisions, including designator G (Sensitive Resource), R (Coastal Resource Protection Area) and/or V (Vernal Pool Area).

Multiple Species Conservation Program and Biological Mitigation Ordinance

[County of San Diego, Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), County of San Diego Subarea Plan, 1997 and County of San Diego, Biological Mitigation Ordinance, (Ord. Nos. 8845, 9246) 1998 (new series) www.co.san-diego.ca.us]

The MSCP is a long-term regional conservation plan designed to establish a connected preserve system that protects the County's sensitive species and habitats. The MSCP covers 582,243 acres over 12 jurisdictions. Each jurisdiction will have their own subarea plan to be implemented separately from one another. The subarea plan for the County's jurisdiction covers 252,132 acres in the southwestern portion of the unincorporated lands. The County Subarea Plan is regulated by the Biological Mitigation Ordinance, which outlines the specific criteria and requirements for projects within the MSCP boundaries. The County Subarea Plan (adopted October 1997), the BMO (adopted March 1998), the Final MSCP Plan (dated August 1998) and the Implementation Agreement (signed March 1998) between the County and Wildlife Agencies are the documents used to implement the MSCP.

The MSCP and BMO provide specific criteria for project design, impact allowances and mitigation requirements. The criteria contained within this document do not replace those required by the MSCP. All projects within the MSCP boundaries must conform to both the MSCP requirements and the County's policies under CEQA.

Resource Protection Ordinance [County of San Diego, Resource Protection Ordinance, 1991 (Ord. Nos. 7968, 7739, 7685 and 7631) <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov>]

The Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO) was adopted in 1989 and later amended in 1991. RPO restricts to varying degrees impacts to various natural resources including wetlands, wetland buffers, floodplains, steep slopes, sensitive habitat lands and historical sites. Certain permit types are subject to the requirement to prepare Resource Protection Studies under the RPO."

RPO states that no impacts may occur to lands determined to be wetlands as defined by the ordinance, except those impacts related to aquaculture, scientific research and/or wetland restoration projects. In addition, the ordinance requires that a wetland buffer be provided to further protect the wetland resources. Access paths, improvements necessary to protect the adjacent wetlands and those uses allowed within the actual wetland are the only allowed uses within the buffer. No impacts caused by activities other than these specifically mentioned shall be allowed. For more explicit information on these requirements refer to RPO.

RPO also limits impacts to sensitive habitat lands. Sensitive habitat lands include unique vegetation communities and/or the habitat that is either necessary to support a viable population of sensitive species, is critical to the proper functioning of a balanced natural ecosystem or which serves as a functioning wildlife corridor. Impacts shall only be allowed when: (1) all feasible measures have been applied to reduce impacts; and (2) mitigation provides an equal or greater benefit to the affected species.

The ordinance includes the provision that when “the extent of environmentally sensitive lands on a particular legal lot is such that no reasonable economic use of such lot would be permitted by these regulations, then an encroachment into such environmentally sensitive lands to the minimum extent necessary to provide for such reasonable use may be allowed”.

Habitat Loss Permit Ordinance [County of San Diego, An Ordinance Amending the San Diego County Code to Establish a Process for Issuance of the Coastal Sage Scrub Habitat Loss Permits and Declaring the Urgency Thereof to Take Effect Immediately, Ordinance No. 8365. 1994, Title 8, Div 6, Ch. 1. Sections 86.101-86.105, 87.202.2, www.amlegal.com]

The Habitat Loss Permit (HLP) Ordinance was adopted in March of 1994 in response to both the listing of the California gnatcatcher as a Federally threatened species and the adoption of the Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) by the State of California. Pursuant to the Special 4(d) Rule under the ESA, the County is authorized to issue “take permits” for the California gnatcatcher (in the form of Habitat Loss Permits) in lieu of Section 7 or 10(a) Permits typically required from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Although issued by the County, the wildlife agencies must concur with the issuance of a HLP for it to become valid as take authorization under the ESA.

The HLP Ordinance states that projects must obtain a Habitat Loss Permit prior to the issuance of a grading permit, clearing permit or improvement plan if the project will directly or indirectly impact coastal sage scrub habitat (CSS) habitat types. The Ordinance requires an HLP if CSS or related habitat will be impacted, regardless of whether the site is currently occupied by gnatcatchers. HLPs are not required for projects within the boundaries of the Multiple Species Conservation Program since take authorization is conveyed to those projects through compliance with the MSCP. HLPs are also not required for projects that have separately obtained Section 7 or 10(a) permits for take of the gnatcatcher. For more explicit information on these requirements refer to the HLP Ordinance.

3.0 TYPICAL ADVERSE EFFECTS

Any action that results in the loss or degradation of a biological resource is considered an adverse effect. The most obvious adverse effect is the direct removal of a resource, such as clearing of habitat or the take of a species. Although not as apparent, indirect impacts can be as harmful as direct impacts. In fact, indirect impacts can adversely affect species or habitat to the extent that it is effectively equivalent to removing the resource.

Significant adverse effects may result from one or more direct, indirect and/or cumulative impacts (CEQA Sections 15358 and 15355). The following describes each of these types of impacts relative to biological resources:

3.1 Direct Impacts

Direct impacts are those that are generally obvious, absolute or quantifiable. The removal of habitat from grading or clearing is the most common direct impact. Other examples of direct impacts would include the construction of a substantial barrier in a wildlife corridor (the direct impact being to wildlife movement) or the loss of habitat occupied by a certain species (the direct impact being to that particular species). Direct impacts may occur through the project itself or actions necessary to implement the project (e.g., construction staging areas).

3.2 Indirect Impacts

Indirect impacts may be the result of secondary effects from direct impacts or those impacts that over time cause the degradation of a resource by changing its function, health or quality.

Indirect impacts commonly result from a project's edge effects. Edge effects from development may extend several hundred feet into adjacent open space areas, causing significant changes in species composition, diversity and abundance in those lands. Projects can have a wide variety of indirect impacts depending on the type of project, the type of resources present, and the type and degree of edge effects.

Projects can also cause a decline in the availability of a resource, such as water or prey, or change the habitat suitability by altering the moisture level or vegetation present, thereby adversely affecting a biological resource. Indirect impacts have been addressed in multiple species recovery plans, reports, journal articles and conferences. These guidelines were created based on the best available science and most common standards followed by the wildlife agencies, conservationists and biologists. On a case-by-case basis, other measurable standards may apply.

3.3 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts are those caused by the additive effect of multiple direct and indirect impacts to a biological resource. A project's direct and indirect impacts may not be individually significant, but the additive effect when viewed in connection with the impacts of past projects, present and probable future projects may cause the significant loss or degradation of a resource. For instance, a creek may be impacted directly and indirectly from road crossings, buffer encroachment and edge effects, all of which cumulatively cause the overall degradation of the creek.

A project may have significant cumulative effects notwithstanding the project's conformance with a regulatory program or existing mitigation plan such as a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) or Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP). For example, species may become listed that were not addressed in the adopted plan, or insufficient information was available at the time of plan adoption.

3.4 Permanent and Temporary Impacts

Direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts can be described in more detail relative to whether they are permanent or temporary. Permanent impacts to biological resources would result from a permanent direct loss of those resources as an area is converted to another condition (e.g., developed, ornamental landscaping, etc.), or an indirect impact (e.g., edge effects) that will persist and is permanent as a result of a project.

In some cases, direct impacts may be considered temporary when an area could be restored to its pre-impact condition and would provide habitat and wildlife functions and values effectively equal to the functions and values that existed before it was impacted.

4.0 GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE

This section provides guidance for evaluating adverse environmental effects a project may have on biological resources. The guidelines for determining significance are organized into five subject areas, based on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. There may be some types of impacts that need to be evaluated under more than one subject area.

These guidelines were established using a variety of resources. Some are the result of an extensive literature search covering scientific texts, journal articles, regional studies and regulatory documents. Others were developed during the creation of the MSCP based on modeling and species analysis. Lastly, where there is no conclusive scientific data to support a specific guideline, it has not been included. Best available science was used in establishing these guidelines, but the guidelines will be modified when scientific evidence to support a new significance guideline becomes available. Any person may provide suitable scientific evidence for consideration in modifying the standards presented in this section and the information shall be considered and applied, as approved by the County. Additional site-specific guidelines may be applied where

relevant circumstances dictate as approved by the County. Please note that due to the extensive list of references and multiple sources for each guideline, all references are listed at the end of this document.

It is important to note that quantification standards are provided as a guidance tool only and specific conditions may vary based on specific site conditions and/or circumstances. Values are provided as a tool for assessing the need to consider the potential for a significant effect to exist and the requirement to specifically address the issues raised in this section.

Before a determination of the significance of an impact can be made, the presence and nature of the biological resources must be established per the County's Biological Survey Guidelines.

Exceeding any one of the following standards will generally be considered a significant impact related to biology as a result of project implementation, in the absence of scientific evidence to the contrary:

4.1 Special Status Species

Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

The following information should be evaluated to provide evidence to support the conclusion.

- A. The project would impact one or more individuals of a species listed as federally or state endangered or threatened.¹
- B. The project would impact the regional long-term survival of a County Group A or B plant species, or a County Group I animal species, or a species listed as a state Species of Special Concern. Impacts of less than 5 percent of an existing population would only be allowable if a biologically-based determination can be made that the project would not have a substantial adverse effect on the regional long-term survival of that plant or animal. Impacts to 5 percent or more of the population are generally considered significant.²

¹ Significance guideline 4.1.A. Impacts to federally and/or state listed species are always considered significant.

² Significance guidelines 4.1.B, 4.1.C. The County has divided sensitive species into groups based on their rarity and known threats. Plant species are divided into Groups A through D on the County Rare Plant List (Table 1). Animals are divided into Groups I and II on the Sensitive Animal List (Table 2). Groups A and B Plants and Group I Animals include those that have a very high level of sensitivity, either because they are listed as threatened or endangered or because they have very specific natural history requirements that must be met. Groups C and D Plants and Group II Animals include those species that are becoming less common, but are not yet so rare that extirpation or extinction is imminent without immediate action. These species tend to be prolific within their suitable habitat types.

- C. The project would impact the regional long-term survival of a County Group C or D plant species or a County Group II animal species.²
- D. The project may impact arroyo toad aestivation or breeding habitat. Any alteration of suitable habitat within 1 kilometer (3,280 feet) and 80 feet elevation of occupied breeding habitat would only be allowable if a biologically-based determination can be made that the project would not impact the aestivation or breeding behavior of arroyo toads.³
- E. The project would impact golden eagle habitat. Any alteration of habitat within 4,000 feet of an active golden eagle nest would only be allowable if a biologically-based determination can be made that the project would not have a substantially adverse effect on the regional long-term survival of golden eagle.⁴
- F. The project would result in a loss of functional foraging habitat for raptors. Alteration of less than 5 acres of foraging habitat would only be allowable if a biologically-based determination can be made that the project would not have a substantially adverse effect on the regional long term survival of any raptor species.
- G. The project would increase noise and/or nighttime lighting to levels proven to adversely affect sensitive species.
- H. The project would impact the viability of a core wildlife area, defined as a large block of habitat (typically 500 acres or more) that supports a source population of a sensitive wildlife species or multiple sensitive wildlife species. Alteration of any portion of a core habitat would only be allowable if a biologically-based determination can be made that the project would not have a substantially adverse effect on the regional long-term survival of that/those species.
- I. The project would adversely affect sensitive species as a result of increased human access or predation or competition from pets, pests or exotic species. Such indirect impacts would only be allowable if a biologically-based determination can be made that the project would not have a substantially

³ Significance guideline 4.1.D. Arroyo toads breed in wetland areas, but require upland habitats for aestivation (similar to hibernation). Studies have shown that arroyo toads will travel up to 1 kilometer (0.62 miles) from wetlands, but there is no definitive study to show the absolute minimum distance that arroyo toads require for all of their life history needs. The USFWS model used to identify and map areas essential to this species determined that areas up to 25m (80 feet) in elevation above the stream channel were most likely to contain the primary constituent upland habitat elements essential to the species. Until such time that a more definitive study is completed, the County will use a width and elevation most often used by the wildlife agencies and amphibian experts.

⁴ Significance guideline 4.1.E. Only a limited number of active golden eagle nests remain in San Diego County. This guideline applies a 4000-foot no-disturbance zone around golden eagle nests. If the project proposes a use that will have little to no long-term effects, such as the construction of a wireless telecommunications facility or improvements to an existing road, the project may proceed with appropriate mitigation during the non-breeding season without having significant effects. Long-term uses within the 4000-foot zone, including most development and recreational uses, are considered significant impacts to golden eagles even if the initial grading, clearing and construction were completed outside of the breeding season. The analysis completed during the creation of the MSCP found the 4000-foot no-disturbance to be necessary for the long-term viability of the existing active nests. Given the lack of any contrary scientific evidence, the County will also use the 4000 zone criteria outside of the MSCP.

adverse effect on the regional long-term survival of the sensitive species.

- J. The project would impact nesting success of the following sensitive animals through grading, clearing and/or construction activities. Alteration of habitat during breeding seasons would only be allowable if a biologically-based determination can be made that the project would not have a substantially adverse effect on the regional long-term survival of the specified species:⁵

<i>Species*</i>	<i>Breeding Season</i>
<i>Coastal cactus wren</i>	<i>February 15 to August 15</i>
<i>Coastal California gnatcatcher*</i>	<i>February 15 to August 31</i>
<i>Least Bell's vireo</i>	<i>March 15 to September 15</i>
<i>Southwestern willow flycatcher</i>	<i>May 1 to September 1</i>
<i>Tree-nesting raptors</i>	<i>January 15 to July 15</i>
<i>Ground-dwelling raptors</i>	<i>February 1 to July 15</i>
<i>Golden eagle</i>	<i>January 1 to July 31</i>

**The breeding seasons listed in this table do not supersede implementing agreements with the wildlife agencies, Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs), Habitat/Resource Management Plans (HMPs/RMPs), and Special Area Management Plans (SAMPs). For example, inside the MSCP Subarea Plan, the gnatcatcher breeding season is March 1 to August 15.*

4.2 Riparian Habitat or Sensitive Natural Community

Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

The following information should be evaluated to provide evidence to support the conclusion.

- A. Project-related construction, grading, clearing, construction or other activities would temporarily or permanently remove sensitive native or naturalized habitat (as listed in Table 5, excluding those without a mitigation ratio) on or off the project site. This guideline would not apply to small remnant pockets of habitat that have a demonstrated limited biological value. No de minimus standard is specified under which an impact would not be significant, however; minor impacts to native or naturalized habitat that is providing essentially no biological habitat or wildlife value can be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the projected impact may be less than significant. For example, an impact to native or naturalized upland habitat under 0.1 acre in an existing urban setting may be considered less than significant (depending on a number of factors). An evaluation of this type should consider factors including, but not

⁵ Significance guideline 4.1.J. This guideline addresses the potential loss of offspring for particularly sensitive birds. Any direct or indirect impacts that might affect the nesting success of these species would be significant. The dates used are based on the collective information gathered from various studies completed on the birds of San Diego County.

limited to, type of habitat, relative presence of habitat type in project vicinity, its condition and size, presence or potential for sensitive plant species, relative connectivity with other native habitat, wildlife species and activity in project vicinity, and current degree of urbanization and edge effects in project vicinity, etc. Just because a particular habitat area is isolated, for example, does not necessarily mean that impacts to the area would not be significant (e.g. vernal pools). An area that is disturbed or partially developed may provide a habitat “island” that would serve as a functional refuge area “stepping stone” for migratory species.

- B. Any of the following will occur to or within jurisdictional wetlands and riparian habitats as defined by ACOE, CDFG and the County of San Diego: removal of associated vegetation; grading; obstruction or diversion of water flow; adverse change in velocity or siltation rate; placement of fill; placement of structures; construction of a road crossing; placement of culverts or other underground piping; any disturbance of the substratum; and/or any activity that may cause an adverse change in native species composition, diversity and abundance.
- C. The project would draw down the groundwater table 3 feet or more from historical groundwater levels to the detriment of groundwater-dependent habitat.⁶
- D. The project does not include a wetland buffer adequate to protect on-site wetlands. Generally, the County presumes buffers of a minimum of 25 feet and a maximum of 200 feet are necessary to protect wetlands. The following examples provide guidance on determining appropriate buffer widths.⁷
 - A 25-foot wetland buffer would only be appropriate under a situation such as the following: The wetland has been assessed to have low physical and chemical functions, soils are not highly erosive, slopes do not exceed 25%, and the wetland is not essential or integral in maintenance of local ecological values.
 - A wetland buffer of 50-100 feet would be appropriate for moderate to high quality wetlands which support hydrophytic vegetation or wetlands within steep slope areas with highly erosive soils. Within the 50-100-foot range, wider buffers are appropriate where wetlands connect upstream and downstream, where the wetlands serve as a local wildlife corridor, or where the adjacent land use(s) would result in substantial edge effects that could not be mitigated.

⁶ Significance guideline 4.2.C. Studies have found that groundwater reductions adversely affect native plant species. Two of the referenced studies (Integrated Urban Forestry, 2001 and Committee on Riparian Zone Functioning and Strategies for Management et. al, 2002) found that permanent reduction in groundwater elevation levels of greater than three feet is enough to induce water stress in some riparian trees, particularly willow (*Salix* spp.), cottonwood (*Populus* spp.) and *Baccharis* species.

⁷ Significance guidelines 4.2.D, 4.5 C. The Resource Protection Ordinance substantially limits activities that may occur in wetlands and wetland buffers as defined by the Ordinance. The Ordinance requires wetland buffers of an appropriate size to protect the wetlands environmental and functional habitat values. The Ordinance prohibits impacts to sensitive habitat lands, although it allows development within sensitive habitat lands when the project includes mitigation that provides an equal or greater benefit to the affected species.

- Wetland buffers of greater than 100 feet but less than 200 feet are appropriate for wetlands within regional wildlife corridors or wetlands that support significant populations of wetland-associated sensitive species or where stream meander, erosion, or other physical factors indicate a wider buffer is necessary to preserve wildlife habitat.
- Buffering of greater than 200 feet may be necessary when a wetland is within a regional corridor or supports significant populations of wetland-associated sensitive species and lies adjacent to land use(s) which could result in a high degree of edge effects within the buffer.
- Wetlands that do not provide significant wildlife habitat or would not suffer substantial adverse effects (as referenced above) due to the type and extent of adjacent uses proposed may not require a full 25-foot buffer.

4.3 Federal Wetlands

Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption or other means?

A. Refer to Section 4.2 guidelines.

4.4 Wildlife Movement and Nursery Sites

Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

The following information should be evaluated to provide evidence to support the conclusion.

- A. The project would prevent wildlife access to foraging habitat, breeding habitat, water sources, or other areas necessary for their reproduction.
- B. The project eliminates connectivity between blocks of habitat, or would potentially block or substantially interfere with a local or regional wildlife corridor or linkage. For example, if the project proposes roads that cross corridors, fencing that channels wildlife to underpasses located away from interchanges will be required to provide connectivity. Wildlife underpasses shall have dimensions (length, width, height) suitable for passage by the affected species based on a site-specific analysis of wildlife movement.⁸
- C. The project would create artificial wildlife corridors that do not follow natural movement patterns. For example, constraining a corridor for mule deer or mountain lion to an area that is not well-vegetated or that runs along the face of a steep slope instead of through the valley or along the ridgeline.⁸

- D. The project would increase noise and/or nighttime lighting in a wildlife corridor or linkage to levels proven to affect the behavior of the animals identified in a site-specific analysis of wildlife movement.⁸
- E. The project does not maintain an adequate width for an existing wildlife corridor or linkage and/or would further constrain an already narrow corridor through activities such as (but not limited to) reduction of corridor width, removal of available vegetative cover, placement of incompatible uses adjacent to it, and placement of barriers in the movement path. The adequacy of the width shall be based on the biological information for the target species, the quality of the habitat within and adjacent to the corridor, topography and adjacent land uses. Where there is limited topographic relief, the corridor should be well-vegetated and adequately buffered from adjacent development. Corridors for bobcats, deer and other large animals should reach rim-to-rim along drainages.⁸
- F. The project does not maintain adequate visual continuity (i.e., long lines-of-site) within wildlife corridors or linkage. For example, development (such as homes or structures) sited along the rim of a corridor could present a visual barrier to wildlife movement. For stepping-stone corridors, a project does not maintain visual continuity between habitat patches.⁸

4.5 Local Policies, Ordinances, Adopted Plans

Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?

The following information should be evaluated to provide evidence to support the conclusion.

- A. The project would impact coastal sage scrub (CSS) vegetation in excess of the County's 5% habitat loss threshold as defined by the Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub Natural Communities Conservation Planning Process (NCCP) Guidelines.⁹

⁸ Significance guidelines 4.4.B, 4.4.C, 4.4.D, 4.4.E, 4.4.F. Wildlife movement paths have a critical role in species survival, allowing foraging, juvenile dispersal, genetic flow, migration and colonization. Without these ecological processes, the probability of species extirpation and eventually extinction is significantly greater. Because of their importance, movement paths have received substantial attention in conservation biology literature. Unfortunately, no study has or can conclude the universal minimum standards for maintaining a movement path because of inherent variability in biological resources. Instead, the optimal conditions for individual movement paths is based on site-specific factors, such as the function of the movement path (i.e., as either a regional linkage or a local movement corridor), the needs of the specific species that utilize the path and the type and quality of habitat present. The criterion set forth in these guidelines relies on site-specific factors while following the guiding principles that have been established through the numerous studies on wildlife movement paths.

- B. The project would preclude or prevent the preparation of the subregional Natural Communities Conservation Planning Process (NCCP). For example, the project proposes development within areas that have been identified by the County or resource agencies as critical to future habitat preserves.⁹
- C. The project will impact any amount of sensitive habitat lands as outlined in the Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO).⁷
- D. The project would not minimize and/or mitigate coastal sage scrub habitat loss in accordance with Section 4.3 of the Natural Communities Conservation Planning Process (NCCP) Guidelines.⁹
- E. The project does not conform to the goals and requirements as outlined in any applicable Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), Habitat Management Plan (HMP), Special Area Management Plan (SAMP), Watershed Plan, or similar regional planning effort.
- F. For lands within the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), the project would not minimize impacts to Biological Resource Core Areas (BRCAs), as defined in the Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO).¹⁰
- G. The project would preclude connectivity between areas of high habitat values, as defined by the Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub Natural Communities Conservation Planning Process (NCCP) Guidelines.⁹
- H. The project does not maintain existing movement corridors and/or habitat linkages as defined by the Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO).¹⁰
- I. The project does not avoid impacts to MSCP narrow endemic species and would impact core populations of narrow endemics.¹⁰
- J. The project would reduce the likelihood of survival and recovery of listed species in the wild.⁹
- K. The project would result in the killing of migratory birds or destruction of active migratory bird nests and/or eggs (Migratory Bird Treaty Act).
- L. The project would result in the take of eagles, eagle eggs or any part of an eagle (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act).

⁹ Significance guidelines 4.5.A, 4.5.B, 4.5.D, 4.5.G, 4.5.J. Projects must conform to the specific requirements of the Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub Natural Communities Conservation Planning Process (NCCP) Guidelines and the San Diego County Habitat Loss Permit (HLP) Ordinance. These guidelines relate to specific findings required for all projects outside of the MSCP boundaries that will affect coastal sage scrub.

¹⁰ Significance guidelines 4.5.F, 4.5.H, 4.5.I. Projects must conform to the specific requirements of the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and the Biological Mitigation Ordinance (BMO). These guidelines relate to specific findings required for all projects within the MSCP boundaries.

5.0 STANDARD MITIGATION AND PROJECT DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

When it has been established that a significant impact will potentially occur, the project must propose mitigation to lessen or compensate for the impact. As defined by CEQA (Section 15370), mitigation includes either measures to avoid, minimize or rectify impacts or measures that compensate for impacts by replacing or providing substitute resources. Table 1 provides a grouping of some applicable mitigation measures that can be utilized to address the Significance Guidelines.

Project design is critically important for the protection of biological resources. Unless projects are designed appropriately, resources cannot be protected in a manner that will ensure long-term viability. Detailed discussion regarding project design is included in Attachment B.

Table 1

Typical Mitigation Measures

Typical Mitigation Applied to Reduce Effects Below Significance
Biological Open Space/Conservation Easement or Fee Title Transfer of Open Space
Limited Building Zone Easement
Off-site Purchase or Preservation of Habitat
Revegetation Plans
Root Stock, Seed or Specimen Collection
Revegetation and/or enhancement of Open Space
Resource Management Plans (RMP)
Breeding Season Avoidance
Permanent Signs
Permanent Fencing or Walls
Temporary Fencing
Evidence of Federal or State permits
Restrictions on Lighting and/or Noise
Biological Monitoring

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Attachment A

DEFINITIONS

Core Wildlife Area. A large block of habitat (typically 500 acres or more) that supports a source population of a sensitive wildlife species or multiple sensitive wildlife species

Corridor. A specific route that is used for movement and migration of species. A corridor may be different from a "Linkage" because it represents a smaller or more narrow avenue for movement.

Linkage. An area of land which supports or contributes to the long-term movement of wildlife and genetic exchange by providing live-in habitat that connects to other habitat areas.

Native Wildlife Nursery Sites. Sites that contain biological, topographical and physical resources necessary for native wildlife reproductive activities. Examples include, but are not limited to: trees that provide nesting and perching sites for birds, man-made structures that provide breeding sites for owls and/or bats, vegetation cover under which mammals would breed, and soils suitable for small mammal or ground-nesting bird breeding activities.

Population. An interbreeding group of individuals of the same species. The geographical limits of a population should be delineated as most appropriate for that species depending on its mobility, method of reproduction, and known distribution. Proportions of a population shall generally be determined based on the number of individuals; however, area may be appropriate for some species.

Raptor Foraging Habitat. Land that supports a minimum of 5 acres of fallow or open areas with any evidence of foraging potential (i.e., burrows, raptor nests, etc.).

Sensitive Habitat. Land which supports unique vegetation communities, or the habitats of rare or endangered species or sub-species of animals or plants as defined by Section 15380 of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (14 Cal. Admin. Code Section 15000 et seq.). Sensitive Habitat includes the area which is necessary to support a viable population of any of the above species in perpetuity, or which is critical to the proper functioning of a balanced natural ecosystem or which serves as a functioning wildlife corridor.

Sensitive Plant. Those plants which meet the following criteria as determined by the County and maintained in its list of Sensitive Plant Species:

- Group A = Plants that are rare, threatened or endangered in California and elsewhere; or
- Group B = Plants that are rare, threatened or endangered in California but more common elsewhere; or

- Group C = Plants which may be quite rare, but need more information to determine their true rarity status; or
- Group D = Plants of limited distribution and are uncommon, but not presently rare or endangered.

Sensitive Species.

- Those species that are included on generally accepted and documented lists of plants and animals of Endangered, threatened, candidate or of special concern by the Federal Government or State of California;
- MSCP Rare, Narrow Endemic Animal Species, Narrow Endemic Plant Species, and Sensitive Plant Species as defined above.
- Those species that meet the definition of "Rare or Endangered Species" under Section 15380 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Attachment B

PROJECT DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Project design is critically important for the protection of biological resources. Unless projects are designed appropriately, resources cannot be protected in a manner that will ensure long-term viability. Therefore, the type and location of projects should always be designed with the needs of biological resources in mind.

The project should first be reviewed to determine whether on-site open space is needed. **On-site open space should only be included when a site hosts *high to very high* value biological resources. The site's location in relation to off-site resources should also be considered when determining whether on-site open space is needed.** Sites with low biological value should provide any necessary mitigation off-site. Sites with moderate biological value should be analyzed to determine whether site-specific factors dictate that on-site mitigation would be biologically-viable, or whether mitigation should be provided off-site. If it is determined that on-site open space should be included, the optimal size, shape and location of open space should become a primary consideration when designing a project.

To determine the value of a site's biological resources, the following attributes should be considered:

- The sensitivity of the vegetation type;
- Extent of on and off-site habitat connectivity;
- General quality of the habitat as determined by the level of disturbance, range in vegetative structure and species diversity;
- Sensitivity of species present;
- Importance of its biological function, such as being part of a wildlife corridor, functioning as a buffer or being integral to a watershed;
- Physical characteristics, such as topography and soils.

Basic Principles

The following basic principles should be followed when designing a project that includes on-site open space:

- ❖ In all cases, projects should be designed to minimize impacts to the more sensitive resources and completely avoid those that are very rare or unique.
- ❖ Although the overall size of an open space area is important, long-term viability of the resources depends on other factors as well. Site conditions and project-specific details should be considered, including:
 - The function and value of the habitat (i.e., as a remnant for stepping-stone behavior, etc.);

- The type of habitat present and any design requirements (i.e., a vernal pool has a watershed, oak woodlands and wetlands need a buffer to protect their root systems, etc.);
 - Whether wildlife utilize portions of the site for movement (on any scale);
 - The types of species utilizing the site for nesting, foraging, movement, etc;
 - The nature and scale of the project proposed (for instance, an industrial project will require far different considerations than a subdivision with 20-acre lots);
 - Fire clearing and brush management requirements for existing and proposed structures and roads.
- ❖ Large blocks of habitat are generally better than smaller ones. However, when no alternative exists, there are cases when a small patch of habitat is useful as a stepping-stone through a developed landscape; although, this is only functional for a limited number of avian species.
 - ❖ The shape of open space in relation to development is often as important as size. The intent of any project design should be to create the maximum amount of interior open space with the lowest amount of interface between development and preserved areas – referred to as maximizing the surface area to perimeter ratio. Less perimeter translates to less potential for “edge effects” to degrade the open space.
 - ❖ The shape, size and location of open space should all be planned to create the maximum amount of habitat connectivity between on and off-site areas. Habitat connectivity allows for more wildlife movement and maximizes the amount of resources available to resident wildlife (for nesting, foraging, etc.).
 - ❖ To maintain the ecosystem as a functioning unit, the open space should be located such that it encompasses the natural diversity of type, function and structure of habitats. Natural patterns of habitat associations should also be preserved. For instance, wetlands and their adjacent upland habitats should be preserved together as should the grasslands or low-lying shrublands adjacent to oak woodland.
 - ❖ Linkages and corridors are essential for juvenile dispersal, foraging, migration and genetic exchange, all of which are necessary for maintaining healthy populations. The optimal location and dimensions of each linkage and corridor are dependent upon the types of resources present and the specific needs of species that utilize the movement path. Natural movement paths within a larger block of undisturbed habitat should be protected, as should the existing constrained, sometimes tenuous connections that provide the last link between two patches of habitat. Projects should never propose to create a constricted corridor or further constrain an existing one.
 - ❖ Preserve design may include land subject to past disturbances if the land in its current or restored state would serve a biological function.

Table 2

San Diego County Sensitive Plant List

Last Updated June 2004

LIST A (Plants rare, threatened or endangered in California and elsewhere)

- Abronia villosa* var. *aurita*, Foothill sand-verbena -- sandy soils, edges of river valleys, open sage scrub, on Santa Margarita
- Acanthomintha ilicifolia*, San Diego Thornmint [FT][CE][NE] -- vernal pools, grassy areas, chaparral and CSS, clay and gabbro soils
- Ambrosia pumila*, San Diego Ambrosia [FE][NE] -- chaparral, CSS, grasslands, and valley bottoms, often in disturbed areas
- Aphanisma blitoides*, Aphanisma -- coastal bluffs, scrub, and dunes
- Arabis hirshbergiae*, Hirshberg's rockcress -- endemic, east of Cuyamaca Lake, on pebble pavement
- Arctostaphylos glandulosa crassifolia*, Del Mar Manzanita [FE] -- maritime chaparral, sandy
- Arctostaphylos otayensis*, Otay Manzanita -- mixed chaparral on gabbro and metavolcanic rock
- Arctostaphylos rainbowensis*, Rainbow Manzanita -- chaparral, north county inland areas
- Astragalus deanei*, Dean's Milkvetch -- CSS and riparian along Sweetwater and Tiajuana River drainages
- Astragalus douglasii perstrictus*, Jacumba Milkvetch -- desert transition in southern part of County
- Astragalus magdalenae peirsonii*, Pierson's Milkvetch [FE][CE] -- desert dunes
- Astragalus oocarpus*, San Diego Milkvetch -- Lower mountain slopes
- Astragalus pachypus jaegeri*, Jaeger's astragalus -- Near Riverside border, chaparral, cismontane woodlands, CSS, grasslands, sandy or rocky
- Astragalus tener titi*, Coastal Dunes Milkvetch [CE] -- coastal strand
- Atriplex coulteri*, Coastal Saltbush -- desert slopes
- Atriplex pacifica*, South Coast Saltbush -- coastal sandy areas
- Atriplex parishii*, Parish brittlescale -- coastal areas
- Atriplex serenana davidsonii*, Davidson's saltscale -- coastal areas
- Baccharis vanessae*, Encinitas Baccharis [FT][CE][NE] -- coastal mixed chaparral, central coast & foothills
- Berberis nevinii*, Nevin's Barberry [FE][CE][NE] -- mixed chaparral near North County border, also cismontane woodland, CSS, and riparian scrub, sandy or gravelly
- Brodiaea filifolia*, Thread leaved brodiaea [FT][CE][NE] -- clay soils and near vernal pools, North County
- Brodiaea orcuttii*, Orcutt's brodiaea -- vernal pools and foothill springs
- Calochortus dunnii*, Dunn's mariposa lily [CA rare][NE] -- montane and foothill, gabbro and metavolcanic soils
- Ceanothus cyaneus*, Lakeside ceanothus [NE] -- Lakeside, Crest, Alpine chaparral
- Centromadia (Hemizonia) parryi australis*, Southern tarplant -- Fall flowering in coastal and interior valley bottoms including Ramona
- Centromadia (Hemizonia) pungens laevis*, Smooth tarplant -- Fall flowering in coastal valley bottoms
- Chaenactis carphoclina peirsonii*, Peirson's pincushion flower -- desert slopes near Santa Rosa Mountains
- Chaenactis glabriuscula orcuttiana*, Orcutt's pincushion -- coastal bluffs and dunes
- Chaenactis parishii*, Parish's pincushion flower -- peak tops in the mountains, chaparral, rocky
- Chamaesyce platysperma*, Flat seeded spurge -- sandy desert scrub
- Chorizanthe orcuttiana*, Orcutt's chorizanthe [FE][CE] -- sand soils Torrey Pines State Park and Encinitas
- Chorizanthe parryi fernandina*, San Fernando spine flower -- north coastal valleys (old record may have been misidentified)
- Chorizanthe polygonoides longispina*, Long spined-spine flower -- sandy and clay soils
- Clarkia delicata*, Campo clarkia -- central and southern oak woodlands, chaparral
- Comarostaphylos diversifolia diversifolia*, Summer holly -- coastal and foothill canyons in heavy chaparral

Cordylanthus maritimus maritimus, Salt marsh bird's beak [FE][CE] -- coastal salt marsh
Corethrogyne filaginifolia incana, San Diego sand aster -- coastal sandy areas
Corethrogyne filaginifolia linifolia, San Dieguito sand aster -- north coastal sandy areas
Cryptantha ganderi, Gander's cryptantha -- desert dunes
Cupressus forbesii, Tecate cypress -- Otay, Tecate, and Guatay Mountains
Cupressus stephensonii, Cuyamaca cypress -- west slope of Cuyamaca Peak
Deinandra (Hemizonia) conjugens, Otay tarplant [FT][CE][NE] -- grasslands near Otay and Bonita
Deinandra (Hemizonia) floribunda, Tecate tarplant -- Fall-flowering in valleys and arroyos in interior, southern chaparral
Deinandra (Hemizonia) mohavensis, Mojave tarplant [CE] -- drainages in 3000 ft elevation chaparral, Chihuahuah Valley, Palomar Mtn.
Delphinium hesperium cuyamaca, Cuyamaca larkspur [CA rare] -- montane meadows
Downingia concolor brevior, Cuyamaca downingia [CE] -- Cuyamaca Lake
Dudleya blochmaniae blochmaniae, Blochman's dudleya -- Camp Pendleton clay soils and terraces
Dudleya blochmaniae brevifolia, Short leaved dudleya [CE][NE] -- sandstone terraces near Torrey Pines and Del Mar
Dudleya multicaulis, Many stemmed dudleya -- Camp Pendleton
Dudleya variegata, Variegated dudleya [NE] -- coastal mesas, CSS and foothill slopes on rocks, especially metavolcanics
Dudleya viscida, Sticky dudleya -- north coastal canyon slopes
Ericameria cuneata macrocephala, Laguna Mountain goldenbush -- rocky mountain peaks
Eriogonum foliosum, Leafy buckwheat -- sandy montane desert soils
Eryngium aristulatum parishii, San Diego button celery [FE][CE] -- vernal pools
Eryngium pendletonensis, Pendleton button celery -- vernal pools
Fremontodendron mexicanum, Mexican flannelbush [FE][CA rare] -- metavolcanic canyons on Otay and Jamul mountains
Galium angustifolium borregoense, Borrego bedstraw [CA rare] -- Palm Canyon
Galium angustifolium jacinticum, San Jacinto Mountains bedstraw -- edge of montane meadows, Volcan and Palomar
Grindelia hirsutula hallii, Hall's gumplant -- montane grassy and meadow areas
Hazardia orcuttii, Orcutt's hazardia [CT] -- CSS near Encinitas
Heuchera brevistaminea, Mt. Laguna alumroot -- rocky mountain cliff slopes
Horkelia cuneata puberula, Mesa horkelia -- coastal mesas, chaparral, CSS, cismontane woodland, sandy, gravelly
Horkelia truncata, Ramona horkelia -- gabbro and metavolcanic foothill slopes and peaks
Hulsea californica, San Diego sunflower -- chaparral slopes in montane areas
Isocoma menziesii decumbens, Decumbent goldenbush -- CSS
Lasthenia glabrata coulteri, Coulter's goldfields -- coastal salt marsh
Lepechinia cardiophylla, Heart leaved pitcher sage [NE] -- metavolcanic soils near Mt. Woodson
Lepechinia ganderi, Gander's pitcher sage [NE] -- metavolcanic soils, Otay and San Miguel Mountains
Lepidium flavum felipense, Borrego peppergrass -- dry lake bottom, Little Blaire Valley
Lepidium virginicum robinsonii, Robinson pepper grass -- CSS and grassy areas
Lessingia glandulifera tomentosa, Warner Springs lessingia -- valleys near Warner Springs, chaparral, sandy
Lilium parryi, Lemon lily -- moist montane meadows
Limnanthes gracilis parishii, Cuyamaca meadowfoam [CE] -- montane meadows
Linanthus floribundus hallii, Santa Rosa Mtn. Linanthus -- Santa Rosa Mountains
Linanthus orcuttii, Orcutt's linanthus -- montane forest openings
Lotus crassifolius otayensis, Otay mountain lotus -- top of Otay Mountain
Lotus haydonii, Pygmy lotus -- desert canyons, pinyon juniper, rocky
Lotus nuttallianus, Nuttall's lotus -- south coastal strand and sandy soils
Lupinus excubitus medius, Mtn. Springs bush lupine -- eastern edge of County near I-8
Malacothamnus aboriginum, Indian valley bush mallow -- montane chaparral
Mimulus latidens, Vernal pool monkey flower -- vernal pools
Monardella hypoleuca lanata, Felt leaved rock mint -- southern foothill peak tops
Monardella linoides viminea, Willowy monardella [FE][CE][NE] -- coastal canyons

Monardella macrantha hallii, Hall's monardella -- montane forest
Monardella nana leptosiphon, San Felipe monardella -- montane chaparral and conifer forest, near Riverside Border
*Monardella stoneae**, -- in canyons around Otay and Tecate Mountains (recently described as new species, was thought to be *M. viminea*)
Muilla clevelandii, San Diego goldenstar -- coastal mesas and clay soils
Navarretia fossalis, Spreading navarretia [FT] -- vernal pools
Navarretia peninsularis, Peninsular navarretia -- moist montane areas near Cuyamaca Lake
Navarretia prostrata, Prostrate navarretia -- vernal pools on Mirimar
Nemacaulis denudata denudata, Coast woolly heads -- sandy coastal areas
Nolina cismontana, Chapparal beargrass -- Magee Ridge, Viejas Mtn.
Nolina interrata, Dehesa beargrass [CE][NE] -- chaparral and CSS on gabbro soils in Southern foothills
Opuntia parryi serpentina (*Cylindropuntia californica*), Snake cholla [NE] -- south CSS
*Orcuttia californica**, Orcutt grass [FE][CE] -- large vernal pools in California
Phacelia stellaris, Brand's phacelia -- CSS
Pinus torreyana torreyana, Torrey pine -- Coastal mixed chaparral at Del Mar
Poa atropurpurea, San Bernardino Bluegrass [FE] -- montane meadows
Pogogyne abramsii, San Diego mesa mint [FE][CE] -- vernal pools
Pogogyne nudiuscula, Otay mesa mint [FE][CE] -- vernal pools in Otay Mesa
Quercus cedrosensis, Cedros Island Oak -- south slope of Otay Mountain
Quercus dumosa, Nuttall's scrub oak -- maritime chaparral
Ribes canthariforme, Morena currant -- moist areas in southern interior chaparral
Ribes viburnifolium, Santa Catalina Island currant -- coastal canyons, chaparral, woodlands, Santa Catalina Is, Imperial Beach, Baja
Rorippa gambellii, Gambel's watercress [FE][CT] -- montane streams, marshes, lake margins, Julian
Rubus glaucifolius ganderi, Cuyamaca raspberry -- montane forest near Cuyamaca
Satureja chandleri, San Miguel savory -- gabbro and metavolcanic soils in interior foothills, Jamul/Dulzura and Fallbrook areas
Scutellaria bolanderi austromontana, Southern skullcap -- wet chaparral and montane areas
Senecio ganderi, Gander's butterweed [CA rare] -- gabbro soils in interior regions
*Senecio sp novum**, -- urban canyon in Chula Vista area, currently being described, shrub
Sibaropsis hammittii, Hammitt's claycress -- gabbro foothills, Viejas Mtn
Streptanthus campestris, Southern jewelflower -- pinyon juniper area
Stylocline citroleum, Oil neststraw -- coastal areas, last collected in 1935
Suaeda esteroa, Estuary seablite -- coastal salt marsh
Tetracoccus dioicus, Parry's tetracoccus -- chaparral on gabbro and metavolcanic soils
Thermopsis californica semota, Velvety false lupine -- montane meadows
Viguiera purissimae, La Purissima viguiera -- CSS in one location on Camp Pendleton, disjunct from central Baja California
Xylorhiza orcuttii, Orcutt's woolly aster -- gypsum soils in desert canyons

LIST B (Plants rare, threatened or endangered in California but more common elsewhere)

Adolphia californica, San Diego adolphia -- clay soils in CSS, chaparral and grasslands
Agave shawii, Shaw's agave [NE] -- coastal terraces
Ambrosia chenopodiifolia, San Diego bur sage -- CSS around Otay
Astragalus insularis harwoodii, Harwood's milkvetch -- desert dunes at eastern base of mountains, sandy or gravelly
Ayenia compacta, Ayenia -- desert canyons
Bergerocactus emoryi, Golden snake cactus -- coastal bluff and near Otay, closed cone conifer forest, chaparral, CSS, sandy
Bursera microphylla, Elephant tree -- desert slopes
Calliandra eriophylla, Fairy duster -- desert canyons, sandy or rocky
Carlownrightia arizonica, Arizona carlowrightia -- desert scrub, sandy, granitic alluvium
Ceanothus verrucosus, Wart stemmed ceanothus -- coastal mixed chaparral
Chamaesyce arizonica, Arizona spurge -- sandy desert scrub

Colubrina californica, Las Animas colubrina -- high desert scrub
Cordylanthus orcuttianus, Orcutt's bird's beak -- CSS in South County near Otay, Chula Vista and Imperial Beach
Coreopsis maritima, Sea dahlia -- coastal bluff
Dudleya attenuata orcuttii, Orcutt's dudleya -- Border Field State Park
Ericameria palmeri palmeri, Palmer's goldenbush [NE] -- south coastal and interior arroyos, mesic
Erodium macrophyllum, Large-leaf fillary -- clay soils in open areas of grassland or CSS in coastal valleys
Eucnide rupestris, Rock nettle -- desert canyons and cliff bottoms
Euphorbia misera, Cliff spurge -- coastal bluff
Ferocactus viridescens, Coast barrel cactus -- coastal mesas and hillsides
Frankenia palmeri, Yerba reuma -- salt marsh near South Bay
Geraea viscida, Sticky geraea -- southern foothill and desert transition, chaparral, often in disturbed areas
Herissantia crispa, Curly herissantia -- eastern desert slopes
Heuchera rubescens versicolor, San Diego County alum root -- rocky mountain cliff slopes, conifer forest, chaparral, Hot Springs & Palomar Mts.
Hulsea mexicana, Mexican hulsea -- desert mountain areas near Jacumba
Ipomopsis tenuifolia, Slender leaved ipomopsis -- desert transition in SE part of County
Iva hayesiana, San Diego marsh elder -- south coastal arroyos and ravines
Lewisia brachycalyx, Southwestern bitterroot -- near Cuyamaca Lake, conifer forests and meadows/seeps
Linanthus bellus, Desert beauty -- interior and desert transition chaparral in southern edge of County, sandy
Lycium parishii, Parish's desert thorn -- low desert flats
Machaeranthera asteroides lagunensis, Laguna Mountain aster [CA rare] -- meadows and openings in forest on Mt. Laguna
Malperia tenuis, Brown turbins -- desert pavement
Matelea parvifolia, Climbing spearleaf -- desert washes and canyons
Mentzelia hirsutissima, Hairy stickleaf -- sandy soil, low desert
Nama stenocarpum, Mud nama -- muddy, lake edges
Nemacaulis denudata gracilis, Slender woolly heads -- sandy desert areas and coastal dunes
Ornithostaphylos oppositifolia, Palo blanco -- hills south of Tiajuana River valley
Quercus cedrosensis, Cedros Island oak -- south slope of Otay Mountain
Rhus trilobata simplicifolia, Single leaf basket bush -- pinyon juniper, Pinyon and Vallecito Mts.
Rosa minutifolia, Small leaved rose [CA rare] -- Otay mesa, CSS/chaparral,
Salvia munzii, Munz sage -- southern CSS/chaparral near Otay Mountain and Otay Mesa also Dictionary Hill and Jamul Mts.
Selaginella eremophila, Desert spike moss -- desert slopes, gravelly/rocky
Senecio aphanactis, Rayless ragwort -- coastal scrub, chaparral, woodlands, alkaline
Senna covesii, Cove's cassia -- desert valley edges
Spermolepis echinata, Spermolepis -- Borrego Valley, sandy or rocky, desert scrub
Stemodia durantifolia, Blue streamwort -- dry edge of reservoir and streams on Otay Mtn.
Viola aurea, Golden violet -- pinyon juniper areas, sandy

LIST C (Plants which may be quite rare, but need more information to determine their true rarity status)

Berberis fremontii, Fremont barberry -- interior chaparral, pinyon juniper woodland, rocky
Camissonia lewisii, Lewis sun cup -- CSS, grasslands, cismontane woodlands, coastal areas, sandy or clay
Ditaxis serrata californica, California ditaxis -- desert scrub
Dudleya alainiae, Reiser's dudleya -- rocky leeward slopes of mountains
Githopsis diffusa filicaulis, Mission canyon bluecup -- CSS in Mission Valley, but also in Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary
Hordeum intercedens, Vernal barley -- seeps and vernal pools
Myosurus minimus (apus), Little mousetail -- vernal pools

Opuntia wigginsii (*Cylindropuntia*), Wiggins cholla -- low desert, eastern edge of County, sandy

LIST D (Plants of limited distribution and are uncommon, but not presently rare or endangered)

Abronia maritima, Red sand verbena -- sandy beach areas
Achnatherum diegoense, San Diego needlegrass -- clay soils in native grassy areas, chaparral and CSS, rocky, often mesic
Androsace elongata acuta, California androsace -- montane grassy slopes
Artemisia palmeri, Palmer's sage -- arroyo bottoms in chaparral, CSS, and riparian, sandy, mostly south part of County
*Asplenium vespertinum**, Western spleenwort -- chaparral, woodland, CSS, rocky
Astragalus crotalariae, Salton milkvetch -- desert transition
Astragalus lentiginosus borreganus, Borrego milkvetch -- desert dunes
Azolla mexicana, Mexican mosquito fern -- standing water on ponds
Calandrinia breweri, Brewer's calandrinia -- burned areas
Calandrinia maritima, Seaside calandrinia -- coastal bluff scrub, CSS, grassland, sandy
Calochortus catalinae, Catalina mariposa lily -- coastal grasslands, cismontane woodland, CSS, chaparral
Caulanthus simulans, Payson's jewelflower -- sandy, granitic locations in foothills and desert
Chamaebatia australis, Southern mountain misery -- chaparral, gabbro and metavolcanic soils
Chamaesyce revoluta, Thread-stemmed spurge -- desert mountains, rocky
Chorizanthe leptotheca, Peninsular spine flower -- CSS and chaparral
Convolvulus simulans, Small flowered morning glory -- coastal clay areas and serpentine seeps, chaparral, CSS, grasslands
Cryptantha costata, Ribbed cryptantha -- desert sandy soils
Cryptantha holoptera, Winged cryptantha -- desert gravels
Cynanchum utahense, Utah vine milkweed -- desert bajadas
Deinandra (Hemizonia) paniculata, Paniculate tarplant -- grassy areas, coast & foothills, Bonsall to Otay
Delphinium parishii subglobosum, Desert larkspur -- desert transition and rocky locations
Dichondra occidentalis, Western dichondra -- coastal mixed chaparral and north county CSS, grasslands, woodlands
Galium johnstonii, Johnston's bedstraw -- Palomar Mtn
Gilia caruifolia, Caraway leaved gilia -- east slopes of Palomar Mtn
Harpagonella palmeri, Palmer's grappling hook -- CSS in South County, chaparral, grassland, clay
*Heterotheca sessiliflora sanjacintensis**, San Jacinto golden aster -- North Mtn ecoregion, mixed chaparral and mixed conifer
Holocarpha virgata elongata, Graceful tarplant -- coastal mesas and foothills
Horsfordia newberryi, Newberry's velvet-mallow -- sonoran desert scrub
Hulsea vestita callicarpha, Beautiful hulsea -- chaparral and coniferous forest
Hymenothrix wrightii, Wright's hymenothrix -- lower mountain woodlands and conifer forests
Juglans californica, California black walnut -- riparian areas near DeLuz
Juncus acutus leopoldii, Southwestern spiny rush -- riparian areas
Juncus cooperi, Cooper's rush -- desert alkaline sinks
Lathyrus splendens, Pride of California -- south interior chaparral
Lilium humboldtii ocellatum, Ocellated Humboldt lily -- shaded montane canyons
Lycium californicum, California box-thorn -- maritime succulent scrub
Lyrocarpa coulteri palmeri, Palmer's lyrepod -- desert canyons
Machaeranthera juncea, Rush like bristle bush -- chaparral and CSS in South County
Microseris douglasii platycarpha, Small flowered microseris -- CSS and clay soils
Mimulus aridus, Desert monkey flower -- desert transition
Mimulus clevelandii, Cleveland's monkey flower -- foothill and mountain peaks
Mimulus diffusus, Palomar monkey flower -- montane and coastal mixed chaparral
Mirabilis tenuiloba, Slender lobed four o'clock -- desert canyons
Mucronea californica, California spine flower -- coastal sandy soils (also inland)
Ophioglossum californicum, California adder's tongue fern -- vernal pools, coastal mesas, and coastal mixed chaparral, mesic

Opuntia wolfii (*Cylindropuntia*), Wolf's cholla -- low desert scrub
Orobanche parishii brachyloba, Short lobed broom rape -- sandy bluffs
Pectocarya peninsularis, Baja California bur-comb -- rare in Borrego Valley (not in CNPS)
Penstemon clevelandii connatus, San Jacinto beard tongue -- rocky desert slopes and mountains
Penstemon thurberi, Thurber's beardtongue -- pinyon juniper areas, chaparral
Pentachaeta aurea, Golden-rayed pentachaeta -- open chaparral and CSS as well as montane conifer forests
Perideridia gairdneri gairdneri, Gairdner's yampah -- moist coastal and montane areas
Pilostyles thurberi, Thurber's pilostyles -- Carrizo badlands overlook, grows on *Psoralea* *emoryi*
Piperia cooperi, Cooper's rein orchid -- vernal moist areas, coast & foothills
Piperia leptopetala, Narrow-petaled rein orchid -- shrublands and woodlands at middle elevations
Polygala cornuta fishiae, Fish's milkwort -- foothill peaks (chaparral, woodlands, riparian) especially metavolcanic and gabbro
Proboscidea althaeifolia, Desert unicorn plant -- desert washes, sandy
Quercus engelmannii, Engelmann oak -- interior valleys and slopes
Romneya coulteri, Coulter's matilija poppy -- chaparral and CSS, often in burns
Rupertia rigida, Parish psoralea -- montane forest near Cuyamaca
Salvia eremostachya, Desert sage -- northern desert canyons, rocky/gravelly
Selaginella asprella, Bluish spike moss -- montane chaparral, granitic/rocky
Selaginella cinerascens, Mesa club moss -- coastal mesas
Streptanthus bernardinus, Laguna Mtns. Jewelflower -- montane peak tops
Suaeda taxifolia, Woolly seablite -- margins of coastal salt marshes
Viguiera laciniata, San Diego sunflower -- CSS in southern part of County

Removed from July 2001 County Sensitive Plant List

Astragalus leucolobus, Bear valley woollypod -- conifer forest, Santa Rosa Mts (removed because it is not found in San Diego County)
Boykinia rotundifolia, Round leaved boykinia -- moist montane (removed because too common)
Castilleja lasiorhyncha, San Bernardino Mtns. owl's clover -- montane meadow San Bernardino mountains (removed because it is not found in San Diego County)
Chorizanthe procumbens, Prostrate spineflower -- northern foothills (removed because too common)

Key to abbreviations

FE – Federally Endangered
 FT – Federally Threatened
 CE – California Endangered
 CT – California Threatened
 CA rare – rare in California, but not listed
 NE – MSCP Narrow Endemic
 CSS – Coastal sage scrub
 * – newly added since Sept 1999 list (25 additions)

Table 3

San Diego County Sensitive Animal List

Group 1 Species

<p><i>Accipiter cooperi</i>, Cooper's hawk <i>Accipiter striatus</i>, Sharp-shinned hawk <i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>, Western Grebe <i>Agelaius tricolor</i>, Tricolored blackbird <i>Aimophila ruficeps canescens</i>, Rufous-crowned sparrow <i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>, Grasshopper sparrow <i>Amphispiza belli belli</i>, Bell's sage sparrow <i>Apodemia mormo peninsularis</i>, Peninsular metalmark <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>, Golden eagle <i>Asio otus</i>, Long-eared owl <i>Athene cunicularia hypugea</i>, Burrowing owl <i>Batrachoseps aridus</i>, Desert slender salamander <i>Branchinecta sandiegoensis</i>, San Diego fairy shrimp <i>Bufo microscaphus californicus</i>, Arroyo toad <i>Buteo lineatus</i>, Red-shouldered hawk <i>Buteo regalis</i>, Ferruginous hawk (Winter) <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>, Swainson's hawk (Winter) <i>Campylorhynchus brunnicapillus couesi</i>, San Diego cactus wren <i>Cathartes aura</i>, Turkey vulture <i>Ccoelus globosus</i>, Globose dune beetle <i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i>, Western snowy plover <i>Circus cyaneus hudsonius</i>, Northern harrier <i>Clemmys marmorata pallida</i>, Southwestern pond turtle <i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>, Yellow-billed cuckoo <i>Coleonyx variegatus abbottii</i>, San Diego banded gecko <i>Dipodomys stephensi</i>, Stephen's kangaroo rat <i>Elanus caeruleus</i>, Black-shouldered kite <i>Empidonax trailii extimus</i>, Southwestern willow flycatcher <i>Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi</i>, Large-blotched salamander <i>Eucyclogobius newberryi</i>, Tidewater goby <i>Euphydryas editha quino</i>, Quino checkerspot butterfly <i>Euphys vestris harbisoni</i>, Dun skipper <i>Falco mexicanus</i>, Prairie falcon <i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>, American peregrine falcon <i>Gila orcutti</i>, Arroyo chub <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>, Bald eagle (Winter)</p>	<p><i>Ictera virens</i>, Yellow-breasted chat <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>, Loggerhead shrike <i>Linderiella occidentalis</i>, California lindellaria <i>Lycaena hermes</i>, Hermes copper <i>Melanerpes lewis</i>, Lewis' woodpecker (Winter) <i>Mitoura thornei</i>, Thornes hairstreak butterfly <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>, Rainbow Trout -- Steelhead form <i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i>, Peninsular bighorn sheep <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>, Osprey (Rarely breeds) <i>Panoquina errans</i>, Wandering salt marsh skipper <i>Papilio multicaldata</i>, Two-tailed swallowtail <i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingii</i>, Belding's savannah sparrow <i>Perognathus longimembris pacificus</i>, Pacific pocket mouse <i>Phrynosoma mcallii</i>, Flat tailed horned lizard <i>Plebejus saepiolis hilda</i>, Hilda blue <i>Plegadis chihi</i>, White-faced ibis <i>Polioptila californica californica</i>, California gnatcatcher <i>Progne subis</i>, Purple Martin <i>Pseudocopaeodes eunus eunus</i>, Alkali skipper <i>Pyrgus ruralis lagunae</i>, Laguna Mtn. Skipper <i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>, Vermilion flycatcher <i>Rallus longirostris levipes</i>, Light-footed clapper rail <i>Rana muscosa</i>, Mountain yellow legged frog <i>Rana aurora draytoni</i>, California red -legged frog <i>Riparia riparia</i>, Bank swallow (Formerly bred) <i>Rynchops niger</i>, Black skimmer <i>Sterna antillarum browni</i>, California least tern <i>Sterna elegans</i>, Elegant tern <i>Streptocephalus woottoni</i>, Riverside fairy shrimp <i>Strix occidentalis occidentalis</i>, California spotted owl <i>Thamnophis hammondi</i>, Two stripe garter snake <i>Toxostoma crissale</i>, Crissal thrasher (Mesquite riparian) <i>Uma notata notata</i>, Colorado desert fringe-toed lizard <i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>, Least Bell's vireo <i>Vireo vicinior</i>, Gray vireo</p>
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Group 2 Species

<p> <i>Anas strepera</i>, Gadwall <i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i>, Silvery legless lizard <i>Anser caerulescens</i>, Snow goose (Winter) <i>Antrozous pallidus</i>, Pallid bat <i>Ardea herodias</i>, Great blue heron <i>Ariolimax columbianus stramineas</i>, Palomar banana slug <i>Asio flammeus</i>, Short-eared owl (Winter) <i>Aythya Americana</i>, Redhead <i>Bassariscus astutus</i>, Ringtail <i>Branta Canadensis</i>, Canada goose (Winter) <i>Brennania belkini</i>, Belkin's dune fly <i>Bucephala islandica</i>, Barrow's goldeneye (Winter) <i>Butorides striatus</i>, Green heron <i>Cerorhinca monocerata</i>, Rhinoceros auklet (Oceanic – Winter) <i>Chaetodipus californicus femoralis</i>, Dulzura Calif. pocket mouse <i>Chaetodipus fallax fallax</i>, Northwestern San Diego pocket mouse <i>Chaetodipus fallax pallidus</i>, Pallid San Diego pocket mouse <i>Charadrius montanus</i>, Mountain plover (Winter) <i>Charina trivirgata roseofusca</i>, Coastal rosy boa <i>Chlidonias niger</i>, Black tern (Non-breeder) <i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i>, Mexican long-tongued bat <i>Cicindela gabbi</i>, Gabb's tiger beetle <i>Cicindela latesignata latesignata</i>, Sand dune tiger beetle <i>Cicindela sinilis frosti</i>, Tiger beetle <i>Cicindela trifasciata sigmoidia</i>, Mudflat tiger beetle <i>Cincindela hirticollis grandidi</i>, Sandy beach tiger beetle <i>Cincindela latesignata obliviosa</i>, Oblivious tiger beetle <i>Cnemidophorus hyperythrus</i>, Belding's orange-throated whiptail <i>Cnemidophorus tigris multiscutatus</i>, Coastal western whiptail <i>Coleonyx switaki</i>, Barefoot gecko <i>Contopus borealis</i>, Olive-sided flycatcher <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>, Townsend's big-eared bat <i>Crotalus ruber ruber</i>, Northern red diamond rattlesnake <i>Cyprinodon macularis</i>, Desert pupfish <i>Cypseloides niger</i>, Black swift (Non-breeder) <i>Danaus plexippus</i>, Monarch butterfly <i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>, Fulvous whistling-duck <i>Dendroica petechia brewsteri</i>, Yellow warbler <i>Diadophis punctatus similes</i>, San Diego ringneck snake <i>Egretta rufescens</i>, Reddish egret <i>Endomyschura hypoleuca</i>, Xantus murrelet (Oceanic) <i>Eremophila alpestris actis</i>, Horned lark <i>Euderma maculatum</i>, Spotted bat <i>Eumeces skiltonianus interparietalis</i>, Coronado skink <i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>, Greater western mastiff bat <i>Falco columbarius</i>, Merlin (Winter) <i>Felis concolor</i>, Mountain lion <i>Fratercula cirrhata</i>, Tufted puffin (Oceanic) <i>Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni</i>, Unarmored three-spine stickleback <i>Gavia immer</i>, Common loon (Winter) </p>	<p> <i>Grus Canadensis</i>, Sandhill crane <i>Helminthoglypta traski coelata</i>, Peninsular Range shoulderband snail <i>Ixobrychus exilis hesperis</i>, Least bittern <i>Junco hyemalis caniceps</i>, Gray-headed junco (Winter-rare) <i>Lampropeltis zonata pulchra</i>, San Diego mountain kingsnake <i>Larus atricilla</i>, Laughing gull (Non breeding, very rare) <i>Larus californicus</i>, California gull (Non-breeding) <i>Lasiurus blossevillei</i>, Western red bat <i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i>, California black rail (extirpated) <i>Lepus californicus bennettii</i>, San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit <i>Macroctus californicus</i>, California leaf-nosed bat <i>Megathymus yuccae harbisoni</i>, Coastal giant skipper <i>Mycteria Americana</i>, Wood stork (Non-breeding, very rare) <i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>, Small-footed myotis <i>Myotis evotis</i>, Long eared myotis <i>Myotis thysanodes</i>, Fringed myotis <i>Myotis volans</i>, Long legged myotis <i>Myotis yumanensis</i>, Yuma myotis <i>Neotoma lepida intermedia</i>, San Diego desert woodrat <i>Numenius americanus</i>, Long-billed curlew (Non-breeding) <i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i>, Big free-tailed bat <i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i>, Pocketed free-tailed bat <i>Oceanodroma furcata plumbea</i>, Fork-tailed storm petrel (Ocean) <i>Oceanodroma homochroa</i>, Ashy storm petrel (Ocean) <i>Oceanodroma melania</i>, Black storm petrel (Ocean) <i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>, Southern mule deer <i>Onychomys torridus Ramona</i>, Southern grasshopper mouse <i>Oreortyx pictus eremophila</i>, Mountain quail <i>Passerculus sandwichensis rostratus</i>, Large-billed savannah sparrow <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>, American white pelican (Winter) <i>Pelecanus occidentalis californicus</i>, California brown pelican <i>Perognathus longimembris brevinasus</i>, Los Angeles little pocket mouse <i>Perognathus longimembris internationalis</i>, Jacumba little pocket mouse <i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>, Double-crested cormorant (Non-breeding) <i>Phobetus robinsoni</i>, Robinson's rain beetle <i>Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillei</i>, San Diego horned lizard <i>Piranga rubra</i>, Summer Tanager <i>Salvadora hexalepis virgultea</i>, Coast patch-nosed snake <i>Sauromalus obesus</i>, Chuckwalla <i>Scaphiopus hammondi</i>, Western spadefoot toad <i>Sceloporus graciosus vandenburgianus</i>, Southern sagebrush lizard <i>Sialia mexicana</i>, Western bluebird <i>Taricha torosa torosa</i>, California newt <i>Taxidea taxus</i>, American badger <i>Thamnophis sirtalis ssp. Novum</i>, South Coast garter snake <i>Toxostoma bendirei</i>, Bendire's thrasher (Non-breeding) <i>Toxostoma lecontei lecontei</i>, Leconte's thrasher <i>Trigonoscuta blaisdelli</i>, Blaisdell trigonoscuta weevil <i>Tryonia imitator</i>, Mimic tryonia snail <i>Tyto alba</i>, Common barn-owl </p>
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Table 4

**Terrestrial Vegetation Communities in San Diego County
Based on Holland's Descriptions**

Suggested by
Thomas Oberbauer, DPLU
(revised February 1996)^{11,12}

10000	NON-NATIVE VEGETATION, DEVELOPED AREAS, OR UNVEGETATED HABITAT		
	11000	Non-Native Vegetation	
		11100	Eucalyptus Woodland
		11200	Disturbed Wetland
		11300	Disturbed Habitat
	12000	Urban/Developed	
	13000	Unvegetated Habitat	
		13100	Open Water
		13110	Marine
			13111 Subtidal
			13112 Intertidal
		13120	Bay
			13121 Deep Bay
			13122 Intermediate Bay
			13123 Shallow Bay
		13130	Estuarine
			13131 Subtidal
			13132 Intertidal
			13133 Brackishwater
		13140	Fresh Water
		13200	Non-Vegetated Channel, Floodway, Lakeshore Fringe
		13300	Saltpan/Mudflats
		13400	Beach
	18000	General Agriculture	
		18100	Orchards and Vinyards
		18200	Intensive Agriculture - Dairies, Nurseries, Chicken Ranches
		18300	Extensive Agriculture - Field/Pasture, Row Crops
			18310 Field/Pasture
			18320 Row Crops
20000	DUNE COMMUNITY		
	21000	Coastal Dunes	
		21100	Active Coastal Dunes (occurred at one time but now nearly extirpated)
		21200	Foredunes
			21230 Southern Foredunes (tiny fragments remaining in Imperial Beach and Los Peñasquitos Lagoon)
	22000	Desert Dunes	
		22100	Active Desert Dunes (very little in Borrego Valley)
		22300	Stabilized and Partially-Stabilized Desert Sand Field (mostly in the eastern part of Borrego Valley; may be large enough to map from aerials)

¹¹Bold indicates current revisions to Holland.

¹²Asterisk indicates prior revisions to Holland (see May 1995 version).

24000	Stabilized Alkaline Dunes*
29000	ACACIA SCRUB*
30000	DUNE COMMUNITY
31000	Coastal Bluff Scrub
31200	Southern Coastal Bluff Scrub (mapped in Point Loma and Torrey Pines State Park)
32000	Coastal Scrub
32400	Maritime Succulent Scrub (Point Loma, etc.)
32500	Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub
32510	Coastal form*
32520	Inland form (>1,000 ft. elevation)*
32700	Riversidian Sage Scrub
32710	Riversidian Upland Sage Scrub (scrub on Banner Grade may fit this category)
32720	Alluvial Fan Scrub
33000	Sonoran Desert Scrub
33100	Sonoran Creosote Bush Scrub
33200	Sonoran Desert Mixed Scrub
33210	Sonoran Mixed Woody Scrub
33220	Sonoran Mixed Woody and Succulent Scrub
33230	Sonoran Wash Scrub*
33300	Colorado Desert Wash Scrub*
33500	Calcicolous Scrub*
33600	Encelia Scrub*
34000	Mojavean Desert Scrub
34300	Blackbush Scrub (micro locations on eastern edge of mountains)
35000	Great Basin Scrub
35200	Sagebrush Scrub
35210	Big Sagebrush Scrub
36000	Chenopod Scrub
36110	Desert Saltbush Scrub
36120	Desert Sink Scrub (in Borrego sink)
37000	Chaparral
37100	Upper Sonoran Mixed Chaparral
37120	Southern Mixed Chaparral
37121	Granitic Southern Mixed Chaparral
37122	Mafic Southern Mixed Chaparral (occurs on Los Posas and Boomer soils)
37130	Northern Mixed Chaparral*
37131	Granitic Northern Mixed Chaparral*
37132	Mafic Northern Mixed Chaparral*
37200	Chamise Chaparral
37210	Granitic Chamise Chaparral*
37220	Mafic Chamise Chaparral*
37300	Red Shank Chaparral (near Campo and Chihuahua Valley)
37400	Semi-Desert Chaparral (same as Desert Transition Chaparral; occurs in areas like Jacumba)
37500	Montane Chaparral
37510	Mixed Montane Chaparral
37520	Montane Manzanita Chaparral
37530	Montane Ceanothus Chaparral

		37540	Montane Scrub Oak Chaparral
	37800		Upper Sonoran Ceanothus Chaparral
		37810	Buck Brush Chaparral
		37830	Ceanothus crassifolius Chaparral
	37900		Scrub Oak Chaparral
	37A00		Interior Live Oak Chaparral
	37B00		Upper Sonoran Manzanita Chaparral
	37C00		Maritime Chaparral
		37C30	Southern Maritime Chaparral (occurs in coastal San Diego County and has been described as Coastal Mixed Chaparral)
	37G00		Coastal Sage-Chaparral Scrub
	37K00		Flat-topped Buckwheat*
	39000		Upper Sonoran Subshrub Scrub
40000	GRASSLANDS, VERNAL POOLS, MEADOWS, AND OTHER HERB COMMUNITIES		
	42000		Valley and Foothill Grassland
		42100	Native Grassland
		42110	Valley Needlegrass Grassland
		42120	Valley Sacaton Grassland
	42200		Non-Native Grassland
	42300		Wildflower Field (this is actually a subset of the above, but would be pertinent in the Cuyamaca Lake and Mataguay Valley areas)
	42400		Foothill/Mountain Perennial Grassland*
	44000		Vernal Pool
		44300	San Diego Mesa Vernal Pool
		44321	San Diego Mesa Hardpan Vernal Pool (northern mesas)
		44322	San Diego Mesa Claypan Vernal Pool (southern mesas)
	45000		Meadow and Seep
		45100	Montane Meadow
		45110	Wet Montane Meadow
		45120	Dry Montane Meadows
	45300		Alkali Meadows and Seeps
		45320	Alkali Seep
	45400		Freshwater Seep
	46000		Alkali Playa Community
		46100	Badlands/Mudhill Forbs*
50000	BOG AND MARSH		
	52000		Marsh and Swamp
		52100	Coastal Salt Marsh
		52120	Southern Coastal Salt Marsh
	52300		Alkali Marsh
		52310	Cismontane Alkali Marsh
	52400		Freshwater Marsh
		52410	Coastal and Valley Freshwater Marsh
		52420	Transmontane Freshwater Marsh (San Felipe Creek)
		52430	Montane Freshwater Marsh
		52440	Emergent Wetland
60000	RIPARIAN AND BOTTOMLAND HABITAT		
	61000		Riparian Forests
		61300	Southern Riparian Forest
		61310	Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest

		61320	Southern Arroyo Willow Riparian Forest
		61330	Southern Cottonwood-willow Riparian Forest
	61500	Montane Riparian Forest	
		61510	White Alder Riparian Forest (Cold Spring in the Cuyamaca Mountains)
	61800	Colorado Riparian Forest	
		61810	Sonoran Cottonwood-willow Riparian Forest (Coyote Canyon)
		61820	Mesquite Bosque (Borrego Sink)
62000	Riparian Woodlands		
		62200	Desert Dry Wash Woodland
		62300	Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland
		62400	Southern Sycamore-alder Riparian Woodland (Pauma and Pala areas)
63000	Riparian Scrubs		
		63300	Southern Riparian Scrub
		63310	Mule Fat Scrub
		63320	Southern Willow Scrub
		63500	Montane Riparian Scrub
		63800	Colorado Riparian Scrub
		63810	Tamarisk Scrub
		63820	Arrowweed Scrub
70000	WOODLAND		
	71000	Cismontane Woodland	
		71100	Oak Woodland
		71120	Black Oak Woodland (Cuyamaca and Mesa Grande)
		71160	Coast Live Oak Woodland
		71161	Open Coast Live Oak Woodland
		71162	Dense Coast Live Oak Woodland
		71180	Engelmann Oak Woodland
		71181	Open Engelmann Oak Woodland
		71182	Dense Engelmann Oak Woodland
		71200	Walnut Woodland
		71210	California Walnut Woodland (micro locations occur, such as in De Luz)
72000	Pinon and Juniper Woodlands		
		72300	Peninsular Pinon and Juniper Woodlands
		72310	Peninsular Pinon Woodland
		72320	Peninsular Juniper Woodland and Scrub
75000	Sonoran Thorn Woodland		
		75100	Elephant Tree Woodland (micro locations such as Indian Wash)
77000	Mixed Oak Woodland*		
78000	Undifferentiated Open Woodland*		
79000	Undifferentiated Dense Woodland*		
80000	FOREST		
	81000	Broadleaved Upland Forest	
		81100	Mixed Evergreen Forest (Palomar Mountain)
		81300	Oak Forest
		81310	Coast Live Oak Forest
		81320	Canyon Live Oak Forest (may be represented in San Diego County in some form but apparently is intended for more northern areas)
		81340	Black Oak Forest (as described in Holland represents apparent patches of oak in the midst of coniferous forests)

83000	Closed-cone Coniferous Forest
83100	Coastal Closed-cone Coniferous Forest
83140	Torrey Pine Forest (not actually a closed cone pine)
83200	Interior Closed-cone Coniferous Forest
83230	Southern Interior Cypress Forest (83330, typo in original Holland document)
84000	Lower Montane Coniferous Forest
84100	Coast Range, Klamath and Peninsular Coniferous Forest*
84140	Coulter Pine Forest
84150	Bigcone Spruce (Bigcone Douglas Fir)-Canyon Oak Forest
84200	Sierran Coniferous Forest
84230	Sierran Mixed Coniferous Forest
84500	Mixed Oak/Coniferous/Bigcone/Coulter*
85000	Upper Montane Coniferous Forest
85100	Jeffrey Pine Forest

Table 5

Habitats and Mitigation Ratios
(These ratios apply OUTSIDE of approved MSCP Plans)

Holland Codes	Vegetation Communities	Mitigation Ratio
11100	Eucalyptus Woodland	none
11200	Disturbed Wetland	3:1
11300	Disturbed Habitat	none
12000	Urban/Developed	none
13100	Open Water (13110-13140)	3:1
13200	Non-Vegetated Channel, Floodway, Lakeshore Fringe	3:1
13300	Saltpan/Mudflats	3:1
13400	Beach	3:1
18100	Orchards and Vineyards	none
18200	Intensive Agriculture - dairies, nurseries, chicken ranches	none
18310	Extensive Agriculture - field/pasture	0.5:1
18320	Extensive Agriculture - row crops	none
21000	Coastal Dunes (21100-21230)	3:1
22000	Desert Dunes (22100-22300)	2:1
24000	Stabilized alkaline dunes	3:1
29000	Acacia scrub	3:1
31000	Coastal Bluff Scrub	3:1
32400	Maritime Succulent Scrub	3:1
32500	Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub (32510-32520)	2:1
32700	Riversidian Sage Scrub (32710-32720)	2:1
33100	Sonoran Creosote Bush Scrub	1:1
33200	Sonoran desert mixed scrub (33210-33230)	1:1
33300	Colorado Desert Wash Scrub	3:1
33500	Calcicolous Scrub	1:1
33600	Encelia Scrub	2:1
34000	Mojavean Desert Scrub (34300)	1:1
35000	Great Basin Scrub (35200-35210)	2:1
36110	Desert saltbush scrub	2:1
36120	Desert sink scrub	3:1
37121	Granitic southern mixed chaparral	0.5:1
37122	Mafic southern mixed chaparral	3:1
37131	Granitic northern mixed chaparral	0.5:1
37132	Mafic northern mixed chaparral	3:1

37210	Granitic chamise chaparral	0.5:1
37220	Mafic chamise chaparral	3:1
37300	Red shank chaparral	1:1
37400	Semi-desert chaparral	1:1
37500	Montane chaparral (37510-37540)	1:1
37800	Upper Sonoran ceanothus chaparral (37810-37830)	1:1
37900	Scrub oak chaparral	1:1
37A00	Interior live oak chaparral	2:1
37B00	Upper Sonoran manzanita chaparral	1:1
37C00	Southern maritime chaparral (37C30)	3:1
37G00	Coastal sage-chaparral scrub	2:1
37K00	Flat-topped buckwheat	2:1
39000	Upper Sonoran subshrub scrub	1:1
42100	Native grassland (42110-42120)	3:1
42200	Non-native grassland	0.5:1
42300	Wildflower field	3:1
42400	Foothill/Mountain Perennial grassland (42470)	3:1
44000	Vernal Pool (44300-44322)	5:1
45000	Meadow and Seep (45100-45400)	3:1
46000	Alkali Playa Community (46100)	3:1
52000	Marsh and Swamp (52100-52440)	3:1
61300	Riparian Forests (61300-61820)	3:1
62000	Riparian Woodlands (62200-62400)	3:1
63000	Riparian Scrubs (63300-63820)	3:1
70000	Woodland (71000-79000)	3:1
80000	Forest (81000-85100)	3:1